



JPW

Docket No.: 052363-0030

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277
Katsumi OKAMURA, et al. : Confirmation Number: 6234
Application No.: 10/562,485 : Group Art Unit: 1775
Filed: December 27, 2005 : Examiner: TURNER, ARCHENE A
For: SURFACE-COATED HIGH HARDNESS MATERIAL FOR TOOL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

The Chinese references were cited in a corresponding Chinese Office Action and their relevance is discussed therein and the other documents are their English language equivalents. A copy of the Chinese Office Action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please note that the reference JP

2000-308906 A, JP 2001-293602 A, cited in an Information Disclosure Statement on December 27, 2005.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Please recognize our Customer No. 20277
as our correspondence address.**